

We are slowly improving the appearance of our buildings and grounds, and have put up the verandah this summer, which has added to the appearance of our building. We also find it a great convenience. We are building a fence, enclosing the buildings and part of the bluff. Inside we have flower plots. Our flowers this summer were beautiful.

The clothing from Maitland P. S. has come to hand. Will write about them when I have put them away. The others have not been received.

*October 21.*—I am enclosing copy of report for last quarter. We are nicely settled down to our winter's work, for which we are fairly well prepared. We had a very fine crop of everything. The lake is frozen over—the earliest I remember of seeing—and the children were on their skates this morning.

The clothing from the Maitland P. S. is good, and the greater part very suitable. Still a few small jackets and coats are in the bales, which cannot be used by us, excepting to be cut up into quilt patches. Each Auxiliary sent its quota of useful articles; so that the wants of our Indians are provided for. I might mention that the box from the Brussels Auxiliary contained a number of flannel skirts and loose jackets to match. These jackets are just what we want for our Indian women. They use the axe a great deal, and like plenty of room. A good supply of quilts was sent. They are always in demand, and are the most useful article that can be sent, covering many of our poor Indians night and day.

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FROM REV. WALTER BEATTIE.

*Virden Oct. 7, 1896.*

The clothing from Saugeen Presbyterial came in good order and most of the Indians came up from Pipestone on one day so that the work of distribution was not such a task as in other years when they came in small companies day after day. I was glad to find so much that was suitable for the old squaws and we had blankets enough for all.

John Thunder seems to get along well on the reserve; so far as I can learn the Indians have perfect confidence in him and he reports his Sabbath services well attended.

In company with Professor Baird I visited the reserve about three weeks ago; the Indians were called together by hoisting the flag at the Mission-house. Nearly all on the reserve turned out and we had quite an interesting service: John led the devotional part in the Sioux language. Professor Baird spoke helpful and encouraging words which John interpreted. I baptized a child of Jesse Wakopa, a Christian Indian, originally